

## SPECIFYING REPORTING VERBS

### STATEMENTS

Say  
Tell  
Claim  
Explain  
Answer  
Reply  
Boast  
Apologise  
Complain  
Declare  
Inform  
Insist  
Offer  
Mention  
Admit  
Agree  
Exclaim  
Promise  
Refuse  
Remind  
Threaten  
Accuse

### QUESTIONS

Ask  
Want to know  
Wonder  
Enquire  
Request

### ORDERS

Tell  
Order  
Shout  
Demand  
Warn

### BEGGING

Beg

### SUGGESTIONS

Suggest  
Recommend  
Advise  
Invite

## REPORTING VERB THAT CAN BE USED WITH TO-INFINITIVE

agree      offer      promise      refuse      threaten      ask

## REPORTING VERBS THAT CAN BE USED WITH THE STRUCTURE V + OBJECT + TO-INFINITIVE

advise      invite      remind      warn      beg      order      tell  
ask      request

## REPORTING VERBS THAT CAN BE USED WITH GERUND

admit      suggest      deny

### ACCUSE

He accused me of stealing his purse.

### APOLOGISE

The pupil apologised for not handing in his project on time.

### COMPLAIN

I complained (to him) about the timetable.

The students complained that the exam was too difficult.

### INSIST

Emma insisted on having a rest.

### REMINDE

I reminded him of the party.

I reminded him to go to the party.

I reminded him that he should go to the lecture.

## EXERCISES

### 1) Match the following halves:

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. The coach encouraged     | a. him to do more exercise.  |
| 2. I invited                | b. that the train was late.  |
| <hr/>                       |  |
| 3. The teacher reminded     | c. that the exam was too difficult.  |
| 4. The passenger complained | d. the team to play better.  |
| 5. The doctor advised       | e. the students to check their answers before handing in th<br>exam paper. |
| 6. He apologised            | f. to be late for work again.  |
| 7. The actress suggested    | g. Jessica to the school dance.  |
| 8. She warned him not       | h. practising the scene before the filming started.                        |
| 9. The students agreed      | i. for forgetting her birthday.  |
| 10. They suggested that we  | j. all go to the cinema that night.  |

### 2) Choose the correct option:

1. My friend refused to leave / leaving. She was determined to get the autographs.
2. It started to rain. I decided to go home and I begged to come / her to come with me.
3. She accepted me to stay / that I didn't stay, and she stayed on her own.
4. She got so wet she started to cry. A man came over and offered to buy / that he buy her a drink.
5. She claims that it was / to be Brad, but I don't believe her.

3) Report what was said. Use specifying reporting verbs:

- 1- "Could you dig my garden, Trevor?" his mother asked him.
- 2- "You must take some exercise" The doctor said.
- 3- "Would you mind not playing computer games in the office?" The boss as
- 4- "Would you like to stay for lunch, Claire?" Peter asked.
- 5- "All right. I won't talk about football" Tom said.
- 6- "You ought to take a break, Andrew" Jim said.
- 7- "I'm sorry I forgot the shopping" Mike said.
- 8- "Why don't we sing a few songs?" John asked.
- 9- "You're going to post the letter, don't forget, Vicky" Rachel told her.
- 10- "Yes, I made a mistake" Mr. Atkins said.
- 11- "Laura! Don't touch the electric wires!" Trevor exclaimed.
- 12- "I really must have a rest" Alex said.
- 13- "I think you should take a taxi" Mark told us.
- 14- "I'll finish it by the end of next week, I promise" Carol said.
- 15- "Don't forget to ring me" I told David.
- 16- "Shall we go to a nightclub?" Fiona asked.
- 17- "I'm not a criminal" He said.
- 18- "Please believe me, all of you!" she said.
- 19- "Yes, I broke her flower pot" He said.

5) Rewrite the conversation in reported speech:

- Director: Get a better actress. This one doesn't know how to cry.  
The director ordered the producer ...
- Producer: I'll talk to her about it.  
The producer told ...
- Director: Just look for a new actress! I can't stand her any longer!  
The director ...
- Producer: Don't shout at me! You'll have the new actress on Monday.  
The producer ...

6) Complete the sentences with your own ideas:

1. Vivien accused her boyfriend ...
2. Tracy's parents warned ...
3. Joe apologised to the teacher ...
4. The politician promised ...